

**MIDDLE ATLANTIC  
Region 1  
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## **Executive Summary**

The primary goal for this project was to provide members of the NY-NJ Chapter of MLA with the opportunity to expand their knowledge of evidence based medicine and to become aware of supporting roles and opportunities for medical librarians in EBM. The target population was health sciences librarians in the greater New York area. (Due to an overwhelming response and long waiting list for a similar class offered in NYC earlier in the year, we were aware of an existing demand for a class on this topic.) The class was held in the classroom facilities of the METRO New York Library Council, a convenient meeting location for this target population. A total of 32 medical librarians attended the workshop. A major accomplishment of the 6- hour workshop was that the instructor did a great job of de-mystifying the critical appraisal process for many librarians who already had significant experience helping their patrons formulate well-built clinical questions and identifying the evidence. A big difference it has made for librarians from Columbia University who were in attendance was that they reported to being more willing to participate in the critical appraisal process as a result of the training. The editor of the NY-NJ Chapter of MLA's newsletter has requested that an article about the training session be submitted for the next issue of the newsletter (<http://www.nynjmla.org/blog/newsletters/>)

### **Minority Populations Served**

African Americans: No  
American Indians/Alaska Natives: No  
Asian Americans: No  
Hispanics/Latinos: No  
Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders: No  
Other: No

## **Approaches and Interventions Used**

The goal of this project was to have the NY-NJ MLA Chapter of MLA host a continuing education class that its chapter members would find relevant and important. Thanks to the Chapter Chair's experience hosting a similar training session at her institution earlier in the year - it was already known that a class on EBM would be very much in demand. Accommodating as many medical librarians as possible interested in attending this training session became a high priority and after some cancellations - all registrants on the waiting list were able to attend (total class size: 32)

The NY-NJ Chapter of MLA's listserv was used to market the CE course and an announcement and registration info was added to the Chapter website.

NY-NJ MLA Chapter website announcement:

[http://www.nynjmla.org/blog/ebm\\_ce/](http://www.nynjmla.org/blog/ebm_ce/)

EBM and the Medical Librarian workshop info:

<http://cech.mlanet.org/node/284>

Registration website for "EBM and the Medical Librarian":

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/embeddedform?formkey=dEtRcjlWT25YWmdZSnJ5X3l2SEt3dGc6>

## **Evaluation Activities**

The goals and objectives of this project were accomplished - the workshop was carried out without any glitches to an extremely appreciative audience (as per the many positive emails of gratitude sent to the Chapter listserv).

All participants completed MLA CE evaluation forms at the end of the workshop that had to be returned for MLA credit certificates to be obtained.

## **Problems or Barriers Encountered**

No problems or barriers were encountered.

## **Continuation Plans**

The NY-NJ Chapter of MLA CE Committee is planning a series of "sharing" webinars on various topics starting in June. One of these sessions will be on a topic related to "supporting EBM" where hopefully attendees of the April 30th workshop will share what they are doing at their institutions and how knowledge gained at the workshop has impacted their work.

## **Impact**

The medical librarians who make up the membership of the NY-NJ MLA Chapter come from all kinds of libraries, with different levels of funding, and serving a wide array of populations. Giving these librarians the opportunity to attend this important training class free of charge was important as many may otherwise not have been able to participate. The Chapter CE Committee is hopeful that the training will have a cascading effect whereby librarians who attended will go back to their home institutions and not only apply what they learned but train others. Offering this type of training opportunity fits perfectly with the Chapter mission to improve access to quality health information. An article about the training session will be published in the next issue of the NY-NJ Chapter of MLA's newsletter (<http://www.nynjmla.org/blog/newsletters/>)



## **Lessons Learned**

A significant lesson was that EBM encompasses so many skills that there is great demand for EBM training both from novice and experienced librarians.

## **Other**

NY-NJ MLA Chapter website announcement:  
[http://www.nynjmla.org/blog/ebm\\_ce/](http://www.nynjmla.org/blog/ebm_ce/)

Registration website for "EBM and the Medical Librarian":  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/embeddedform?formkey=dEtRcjlWT25YWmdZSnJ5X3l2SEt3dGc6>

**Attachment 1: AR summary data: Subcontractor activities**